

KOOTENAY'S FUTURE

"The time has arrived in Canada," said a keen Scotch business man in the east the other day, "when mining is looked upon as a profitable investment."

This little text might be made the foundation of a first class sermon, but as THE HERALD is not in the sermonizing business, it will be content with reciting a few facts on which it bases the statement that British Columbia is on the eve of one of the most prosperous booms in the history of mining. The older countries possess hoards of capital eager for investment. Millions of pounds have been kept back for the past few years by the uncertainty of the war situation. Old country investors only await a favorable opportunity to let loose their purse strings. Comparatively few classes of investment are now open to capital. The civilized world is well supplied with railways, which were formerly looked upon as a profitable investment, but are no longer. Big farms and big ranches are also in most countries becoming things of the past.

Mining, then, is the only great investment remaining. And British Columbia is just entering on her brilliant career as the greatest mining country in the world. "California and Montana are not in it with this country," remarked one of the best prospectors in British Columbia to the writer a few days ago. And when we consider the enormous extent of country over which fabulous mineral discoveries have here been made, as compared with the correspondingly limited areas which brought California and Montana into the front rank of mining countries, the statement is soon to be perfectly true. The rich mines which built up the city of Butte, Montana, were confined to an area of about two miles square. In British Columbia they are 20 miles south of the Canadian Pacific Railway and hundreds of miles north, the mountains have proved to be heavily mineralized and there is every reason to believe that not only do similar conditions exist all the way up to Alaska, but that the wealth of hidden riches increase enormously as the miner proceeds northward. It is impossible to over-rate the buried resources of British Columbia, and the man who attempts to belittle them is either woefully ignorant or utterly unable to grasp a plain fact.

MINING AS AN INVESTMENT

It has been a common saying for years that mining is a "game," and that no man knows how a mine will turn out. In a degree this is true. But not wholly so. There was a time when certain surface indications were accepted as positive evidence of the value of the ore beneath them, and when were made based upon such indications; but science has stepped in, and are supposed to be worthless has assumed a new value. Consequently the old surface indications are not considered as fallible guides by the prospector of this day, and are sometimes entirely ignored by the mining expert.

"Gold is where you find it," has become a modern prospector's axiom, and not without good reason, for valuable mines are now being worked which have been tramped over for months by supposedly well posted mining men, and carefully turned down in the past by the experts.

When a man puts his money in a mine now, he not only knows he is buying a mine, but he knows just about how much it is in sight and about what it is worth per ton. He therefore takes not so great a risk in reality, as many merchants do, who credit good a thousand miles from their homes. When the returns from a paying mine are compared with the investment the risk becomes of no moment, and some mines are so productive that they pay dividends as regularly as any such larger than bank stock or any first class security.

In any well managed mine the risk is out of all proportion to the returns, for when it may cost \$25,000 to open and develop a mine so that it pays expenses and finally dividends, the returns frequently run as high as \$100,000 in a single year. There is no other legitimate business that pays such profits.

Mining Companies

The Difference Between Wildcat Speculative and Established Companies.

Mining companies may be divided into three distinct classes, and so defined according to their objects, possibility of becoming dividend payers, and their future. The name "wildcat" has been frequently applied to companies where it has been manifestly unjust, for it is not true that all new companies are wildcats.

A "wildcat company" is one where the claim is a poor one—perhaps not at all likely to ever become a paying mine—and the promoters of the company knowing this, have their shares beautifully engraved, issue attractive prospectuses, furnish attractive offers and sell their shares at almost any price above the cost of purchasing them. The money received of course goes into expenses (they furnish the vouchers), save a small percentage which may be applied to some "cornering" about the surface to make a show of, and gather in some specimens of rock to show the far away buyer. Such companies stop short at nothing to place their shares and get the money for them. Fortunately this class of company in Kootenay is rare.

SPECULATIVE COMPANIES. The name "speculative" may be applied to those companies who having secured an option, or written contract to buy a mining claim within a certain time, have paid a small sum down to hold the claim, but have no real title to their property, and are trusting to the sale of their treasury shares to raise sufficient funds to complete their requirements.

In this case but little, if any, of the money coming from the sale of treasury shares can be, or is, applied to the development of the mine until all these payments are met. These companies frequently become excellent properties when their affairs are conservatively and honestly administered. Some of the strongest companies now in existence have been started as speculative companies, but their success has been dependent on the union of two things, a good claim and absolute honesty in the administration of its business.

MIXING COMPANIES. Established companies differ from speculative companies, in that the former have fully paid for their claim and either hold a crown grant or patent for it, thereby establishing beyond a doubt their title to all mineral found on their claims, or have done sufficient work to entitle them to a crown grant.

When a company can show a fully paid up title to a mine before floating shares, it is the best possible evidence that the organizers of the company have full faith in the value of their mine. When a company of promoters want outside parties to buy stock to help them pay for a mine or claim, they are either unable financially to pay for the mine, or they are unwilling to assume the risk of their own money.

Many companies, however, who in full, are honestly and conservatively managed; their claims are valuable and every dollar they receive goes into the development of the mine. Shares bought in such a company being sold at a few percent above those of an established company, offer a good investment.

IMPORTANCE OF HONEST OFFICIALS. In considering the standing of a mining company the first requisite is the character of the men comprising the offices. Then, as a secondary consideration, is the value real or supposed, of the mine itself.

Honest officers will make a poor mine show a profit. Dishonest officers will bankrupt a company owning a mine of almost pure gold.

MAY BE FERGUSON'S RECORD

There were 2,588 records of mining claims in Trail Creek division in 1895. There were 2,600 bills of sale and bonds. There were 1,211 certificates of work. There were 1,290 Free Miner's certificates issued. There were 1,260 miners working 176 claims.

What is to prevent the Lardreau camp piling up a similar record?

Carefully placed investments in the Lardreau are better than the Bank of England.

HOW TO LOCATE A CLAIM.

The mining laws of British Columbia are designed to afford the utmost protection to miners, and also to afford every encouragement to prospectors to open up and locate mineral properties. But in view of this protection, the laws require certain things to be done, and they must be done exactly. The prospector who has found "mineral in place" must mark his claim by two legal posts, each four feet above the ground. They must be numbered 1 and 2.

A local post marked "Discovery Post" must also be placed on the side where it is discovered. On No. 1 post must be written: (1) Initial Post. (2) The name of the claim. (3) Name of locator. (4) Date of location. (5) Approximate bearing of No. 2 post. (6) Length and breadth of claim. (7) Number of feet to the right and number of feet to the left of location line.

On No. 2 post: (1) Name of claim (2) Name of locator. (3) Date of location.

The line from No. 1 to 2 must be distinctly marked by blazing trees or planting stakes.

Locations made on Sunday or public holidays are as good as those made on any other day.

"CAME ON A SHOE STRING"

It is a common expression in American mining towns that so and so came into the camp on a "shoe string" and is now worth \$100,000. It does not mean that a man walked in to camp on a shoe or any other kind of a string, nor does it indicate he came in at the other end of the string. It simply means that a man came into the camp some months ago with a capital so small, compared with what he now has, that his original capital bore the same ratio to his present capital that a shoe string does to a pair of shoes.

When such men came in they stretched their shoe string straight and taut, and they used their shoe string as a straight edge to try their work, and naturally they succeeded. There are many examples of such men throughout Kootenay who could today sell their holdings and retire rich men. There is another class, however, who came in on a shoe string, but their string was so crooked they have only a small piece of the original string left, and that is fast going too. They tie their string in so many knots to try their tortuous ways, that it is hard to find either end of the original string. The Lardreau was none of these.

Keep your eye on the Lardreau.

The Lardreau wants no wildcats.

Sixteen great groups and 12 working mines is a pretty good start off for the Lardreau camp.

Trout Lake and Ferguson welcome the advent of the capitalist. In a few months they will take off their hat to the railway.

On the Silver Cup ledge, claims are staked three tiers deep, so strong is the attraction of the rich strikes that have been made on and near the ledge.

Treasury shares bought in reliable companies are almost certain to bring large returns. Treasury shares bought in a wildcat company are likely to make excellent wall paper.

It used to be said of Mr. Horne-Payne that everything he touched turned to gold. Whatever he has touched in the Lardreau has turned to both gold and silver. May it keep on turning.

Roseland is three years old and has 12 claims that have shipped one. Ferguson is not a year old and has at least a dozen mines ready to ship as soon as the railroad gets in. Some of them have shipped already.

Ferguson has no opening for a brass band at present. She gets all the music her owners want and it is the kind of music that pays. The sound of the carpenter's hammer and the miner's shot is more soothing to the savage breast of the Lardreau prospector than the sweetest strains of Sousa or Mendelssohn. Let the band play on.

BRITISH CAPITAL

The Reason Why It Favors the Lardreau Country.

The London correspondent of the Rossland Miner said in a recent issue: "The Financial News in a recent issue draws attention to the Shocan district which has hitherto received but scant attention over here considering its undeniable merits as a rich and valuable mining region. From many conversations that I have had with men associated with some of the wealthiest and most influential financial houses, I cannot hold out hopes that this portion of West Kootenay is likely to immediately receive much attention from the investing public on this side of the water, the probabilities being that the Lardreau country will be more favoured, owing to the fact that it once carry a percentage of gold—not at large one it is true, but sufficient to attract investors."

THE WESTERN CANADIAN

Wm. A. Martel, of Rat Portage, A. D. Hoar, of Revelstoke, and Hugh A. Brown, of Revelstoke, are the trustees of the Western Canadian Mining and Development Company, whose capital stock is \$1,250,000 in shares of the par value of \$1 each.

90,000 shares have been set aside as reserve stock. The company has three properties, the Beaver, in the Hilly River district of Ontario; the Cumberland, in the Trout Lake district; and the Silver Lardreau, also in the same locality. The proprietary stock is pooled until the first dividend is declared.

Trout Lake City

Tonsorial Parlours

Hot and Cold Baths

J. P. MORRISON, Proprietor

Trout Lake City

Columbia Hotel

Revelstoke

Brown & Clark, Proprietors

Largest Hotel in Revelstoke

Rates \$1 a Day

Free Bus to and from Station

St. Leon Hot Springs

Runs in Connection

Abrahamson Bros.,

Trout Lake City.

Also proprietors of the Central Hotel, Revelstoke. Airy rooms. First class table. Lowest rates.

Published Monthly

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A complete and reliable pocket directory of the mining camps, railways, steamboats, mining companies, the government officials, etc., etc. of British Columbia.

KOOTENAY ... GUIDE

Every Traveller, Mining and Business Man should carry a copy.

Young & Luxton
Publishers
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The best and cheapest newspaper in the West is the

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For mining and general news THE WEEKLY HERALD has no competitor at the price in Canada.

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Mining Prospectuses, Stock Certificates, Etc. THE HERALD steam printing establishment is the largest and best equipped between the coast and Winnipeg. Our specialty is first class work at low prices.

Address—J. J. YOUNG, Manager, Calgary, Alberta

QUEEN'S HOTEL

Trout Lake City.

The Leading Hotel in the Lardreau.

Offers accommodation equal to anything in the Kootenay. New furniture. Comfortable reading room.

Headquarters for mining men.

Bar separate from first-class bed rooms.

ABRAHAMSON BROS.,

Trout Lake City.

Also proprietors of the Central Hotel, Revelstoke. Airy rooms. First class table. Lowest rates.

TROUT LAKE CITY

The Present Centre
and
Future Headquarters

For mining operations in
British Columbia's great

LARDEAU DISTRICT

Trout Lake City Advantages

It is a mining centre
It is a desirable residential point.
It is "beautiful for situation."
It has plenty of level ground.
Its climate is superb.
It has lots of building timber.
Its lake contains millions of fish.
It gives a clear title to purchasers.
It will have railways to the north and south.
It will be a centre for the mining camps of the Lardeau.

TROUT LAKE

And Its Surroundings

The visitor to Trout Lake City leaves the main line of the C. P. R. at Revelstoke, where reside the manager of the townsite, Mr. F. B. Wells, and the general agent, Mr. T. L. Haig, either of whom will be found ready to give every item of information the prospective investor may desire.

From Revelstoke the visitor journeys by train 28 miles to Arrowhead, the prettily situated northern part of the great Arrow Lakes. Here a small but rapid and comfortable steamboat is boarded, and in about an hour lands you at the head of the East Arm of the Lake, a short run of 10 miles.

At the landing point—known as Thomson's Landing—the traveller may either stay at the hotel or at once proceed to Trout Lake City, 12 miles south east, over a good road. He may go by stage, horse back, or on foot. The entire distance from Revelstoke is only 45 miles, occupying five hours, and the trip is an exceedingly pleasant one, varied as it is by some of the finest scenery in British Columbia—the Switzerland of America.

After traversing 12 miles of the fertile forest valley lying between the head of Arrow Lake and the head of Trout Lake, the visitor emerges into a clearing on which stands the embry city of Trout Lake.

With towering mountains on either side and the grateful expanse of lake to the south, the prospect is one that appeals to the newcomer of every class, be he tourist, investor, miner, prospector or mechanic. On every hand the echoing shots of the miner are heard as he dives into the richly mineralized rock with drill, dynamite and pick. Almost daily some lucky prospector comes into town with reports of new and promising discoveries. The sound of the carpenter's hammer and the wood chopper's axe enlivens the solitude of the mountain forests and indicates the healthy growth of the sturdy little town. Every day the fisherman brings from the lake a big catch of salmon trout or other member of the finny tribe, and occasionally the hunter is plucky enough to bag a silver tip bear or lucky enough to bring down a caribou deer.

The climate and soil of the district are all that could be desired by the rancher, gardener, or fruit grower, for whose products a profitable and rapidly expanding market exists.

Trout Lake City at present (May) consists of two hotels, general store, barber shop and several houses. Contracts are let for five residences for a Montana mining company which is commencing operations on a large scale and several other buildings have been started and others will go up as soon as the saw mill turns out sufficient lumber.

Well known mining promoters and capitalists already have their representatives on the ground and it is no boomer's dream to say that before another six months Trout Lake City will be a bustling seat of business and one of the numerous thriving towns and mining camps in this treasure laden Lardeau—the new centre of attraction for the best mining enterprise, skill and capital which British Columbia has magnetized within her borders.

As a Real Estate Investment

Lots in Trout Lake City are as good as lots in Rossland were two years ago.

Trout Lake City lots are offered at the same figure as lots in Rossland started at. Today Rossland lots are held at \$2,000, \$5,000 and as high as \$15,000 each.

PRICES OF LOTS

INSIDE, \$100—Payable \$33.35 down, \$33.35 in 3 months, \$33.35 in 6 mo. CORNERS \$150—Payable \$50 down, \$50 in 3 months, \$50 in 6 months.

T. L. HAIG, Revelstoke

General Agent for Trout Lake Townsite

Three Ledges of Quartz, 30 feet, 8 feet and Six Feet Wide Showing Galena Over the Whole Surface—The Quartz Carries Gold—Two Tunnels Driven and Cabins Built.

While en route to the Lardian district from Revelstoke The HERALD representative, accompanied by Mr. W.B. Bennett, President of the Great Western Mines, Ltd., L.V. Lay, spent two days in a complete inspection of the company's property. The steamer from Arrowhead landed us on the lower claim in less than an hour's run. The inspection more than confirmed the most favourable reports previously heard about the Great Western. It seems to have been intended by nature to make a great mine. The showings both on the surface and in the tunnels and the open cuts are exceedingly fine. The ledges lie admirably for development, splendid mainly for fine timber and water power are right on the property and steamboats can come close along the river.

All three ledges lie within a few yards, running almost parallel with each other and cutting in toward the centre of the mountain with a slight dip, the strike being north westerly. Running as they do from the water's edge to the top of the mountain they can be tunelled on anywhere without necessitating a foot of dead work.

The width of the ledge as it crops out higher up varies from 20 to 30 feet. It has been traced clear through the length of two and a half claims, about 4,000 feet. Near the top of the mountain the three ledges seem to run into one and the galena on the surface is more plentiful and in larger and cleaner bodies. At one point one of the ledges has been stripped clear of both walls by a slide, and stands out several feet from the mountains. With such splendid surface showings it is hard to estimate the richness of the strikes that are almost sure to be made a few hundred feet in.

Two men have been at work the past winter driving a tunnel on No. 2 ledge on the middle claim. It was in 95 feet at the time of the visit and will be continued a hundred feet or more further when crossovers will be driven to hit the outside ledge. At No. 2 tunnel there is a stack of several tons of concentrating and shipping ore, from which it is intended to sack a shipment for the smelter as soon as possible.

No. 1 tunnel, about 50 feet lower down, is in about 83 feet. In addition to the two tunnels open cuts have been made at intervals from the water's edge to the middle of the third claim, which contains the richest showings and is appropriately named the Cracker Jack. The other two claims belonging to the company are the Great Western and the Young Crack.

Two cabins have been built on the property, one of which will be used as a powder house, and another, a larger cabin, will be built for boarding and sleeping purposes. At a small expense a creek on the property can be diverted on the ledges for the purpose of shipping them more completely, thus bringing nature to the assistance of the miner.

This creek will also be used to furnish water power for a concentrator. Its capacity is sufficient to operate half a dozen concentrators summer and winter, as it never freezes and

The whole mountain is covered with a heavy growth of timber of excellent quality and size for the building of a saw-mill building. In fact there seems nothing lacking to make the great Western one of the biggest timbers in West Kentucky and the man who is lucky enough to get hold of a good slice of the luck will secure a good slice of the investment which may yield him a fortune. The bulk of the stock is held by four men, none of whom will part with a single share, and it is understood they have already refused big offers from an Englishman and a Scotchman, and will not succumb to any of the claims, any one of which would make a big mine.

These springs are run in connection with the Columbia House, Bathing and Hotel on Upper Arrow lake, above Nakupit. Their curative properties are rated high, as indicated by the fact that many of the vacationers and tourists who resort to them, the boarding accommodation being so overrated that Mr. Thompson, the proprietor, has been obliged to build a hotel there. Besides being a health resort, the neighborhood of the springs is a beautiful one, and a large quantity of hay has been obtained from a claim 230 yards from the springs, running 170 ft. silver and 3500 gal. gold, and the locality on both sides of the lake, thus adding another evidence of how completely mineralized the country is. Kootenai Indians live here.

This remarkable ledge is to be developed this season by two companies which have been recently incorporated. It is described at length elsewhere in this issue.

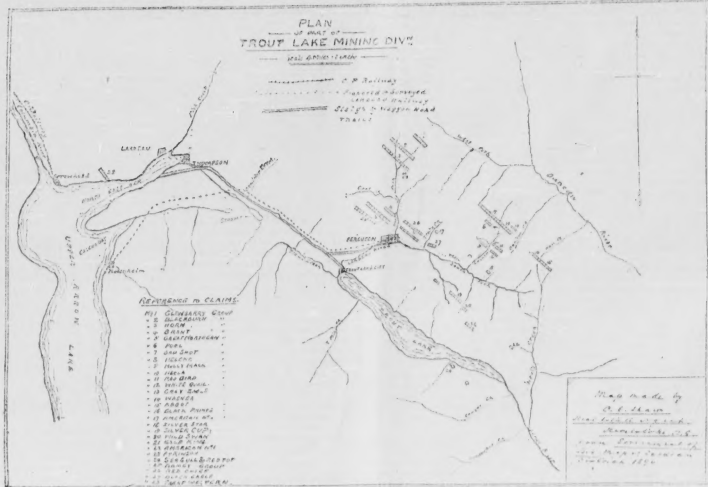
The

Broadview	Badshot
Old Sonoma	Black Prince
Great Northern	Silver Queen
Hillside	True Fissure
Sunshine	Towser
	Silver Cup

Cascade Group	Pool Group
Galena Prince Grp	Silver Chief Group
Great Horne Group	Big Five Group
Wagner Group	Abbott Group
American Group	Glengarry Group
Black Eagle Group	Blackburn Group
Pilot Knob Group	Holy Moses Group
Highland Group	Ped Plume Group

All Within a Radius of one to six Miles Each Group Containing from 3 to 18 Claims

Is all that's needed to demonstrate that the Greatest Mines of the Lardeau are Tributary to Ferguson. The ore must come into Ferguson for shipment and it is already the seat of supplies.



Is the terminus of the projected Lardcan Railway—to be built this summer. At the present ground floor price the best real estate investment on the market is FERGUSON lots. The best proof of this is the rapidity with which they are going.

\$40.00 down secures a Corner Lot at **\$160.**
\$27.50 down secures an Inside Lot at **\$110.**

C. E. SHAW, GENERAL AGENT = FERGUSON.

Its Original Locator—Something About
Its Big Ledge, Which Is Trace-
able for Nine Miles—Plenty
of Grey Coconuts

The Highland Boy, Union Jack, Hattie M and Bloomer fraction are the claims composing the group which has been stocked by the Highland Group Mining and Development Company at the usual million, with 200,000 shares in the treasury. The officers are: I. S. Freeze, Calgary, President; Hugh McMillan, Cody, B. C., Vice President; A. B. Dockstader, Cody, B.C., Secretary-Treasurer; John W. Less, C. P. R., Toronto, Ont., G. T. Landy, Cody, B. C., A. B. Dock-

Two of the claims were first staked four years ago by John McDonald, locally known as "Lardeau Jack." He called them the Sir John and Twelfth of July. Their location is on Silver Tip Creek, on the West Fork of Duncan River, and the distance from Ferguson is claimed to be six miles.

DESCRIPTION OF LEDGE
The ledge, which is traceable for nine miles, is a contact ledge, 30 feet wide at the surface, with good looking outcroppings of galena throughout.

The direction of the ledge is north east and dips slightly to the east, but is almost perpendicular. The footwall is a blue lime and the hanging wall a light slate.

It is considered one of the best ledges in the Lardeau district and has been so for years.

There is a good waterpower running through the country, and plenty of timber for mining purposes. It is intended to commence operations at once with a force of men to develop one or more of the claims, the promoters being prepared to push along without delay. Some work has already been done on the property.

It is expected that in a very short time there will be a large facility either near the Duncan or to Arrowhead. There is a down grade all the way to Ferguson. "Ferguson," said Mr. Lundy to THE HERALD correspondent, "will be our natural outlet as soon as the road is built in."

From fair average samples the following assays have been obtained from reliable firms:

No 1—Galena, 63.3 oz. silver per ton

No. 2—Galena, 250.0 ounces silver per ton, 81.9 per cent lead—\$224.45 per ton.

No 4.—Galena, 60.0 ounces silver per ton, 82.0 per cent lead—\$88.20 per ton.

All these are practically surface assays. Picked samples, it is claimed would go over 100 oz. Grey copper

shows through the galena in considerable quantities.

A GREAT VEIN

On the fourth claim north of the Highland Group and on the same lead

development work was commenced last year on a paystreak of galena one inch wide at the surface and at a depth of 16 feet the vein had increased to a thickness of eight inches.

Development work can be prosecuted at a minimum cost, the hole lying well for tunneling. There will be little or no dead work. The location of the mountain is

Two trails are built to within two miles of the group, one up the north fork of the Lardcan and the other from Fish river. The company will

Thanks to the active work of Mr. G. T. Lundy and his unbounded faith in the property the Highland

Group has been placed in an excellent position to go right ahead with development work and become a shipper as soon as the Lardeau is provided with adequate transportation. Mr.

The company is offering the first block of treasury shares at 10c, the price

"EXPERT BOOTS."

[illegible]

C. E. Shaw, agent for the Ferguson townsite, is now occupying his office in Ferguson and is kept busy attending to buyers.

GOLD IN BIG BEND

The Past, Present and Future of the Diggings

Up the Columbia River from Revelstoke—A Plain and Reliable Account of the Work Already Done

The McCullough, Goldstream and Smith Creeks With Their Claims Described—Prospects for the Future

Revelstoke Herald: In addition to the golden prospects in the immediate vicinity of the position of Revelstoke as the distributing point and centre of the Lardner, Trout Lake and McCullough mining districts, whose immense wealth recent discoveries have placed beyond the possibility of a doubt, leads her citizens to entertain this town as the only gateway into the Big Bend gold fields, whose riches have attracted the attention of miners ever since only days of the rock to Cariboo. Starting from Revelstoke, the pack trail, which is at present the only means of access to the country, leads along the east bank of the Columbia river, 62 miles to the stream on which the principal operations are at present being conducted. It is confidently expected, however, that the Canadian Pacific Railway will put a station on the river next summer, which will make the distance from Revelstoke to the mouth of the river, 200 miles, or 100 miles of the distance. It is also hoped that Government assistance will be forthcoming to clear out the obstructions to navigation at the dangerous Death rapids, above the mouth of the river, so as to enable a steamer to make the complete trip to Goldstream. This creek together with its tributaries French creek and McCullough creek, has hitherto been the scene of the chief placer mining in the country.

MCCULLOUGH CREEK.
In the sixties considerable gold was taken from the mouth and upper portion of this creek. The claims of the shafts were sunk, all on the rim rock. But owing to the high price of provisions in those days combined with the natural difficulties of the ground, miners were forced to leave the country, and the Big Bend shafts still exist. At that time a great number of locations were taken up and held by a system of transfer and sale from one miner to another, and in reality little or no work was done until 1882. The Ophir claim at the mouth of McCullough creek was worked as a hydraulic mine, and gave very fair returns, which might in complete ignorance have been largely increased by a more judicious method of handling the property, which no doubt is a valuable one. This claim has been worked for several years and is now lying idle.

The Last Chance claim joins the Ophir. Considerable work was done on this claim up to two years ago to a very little purpose. Under the present manager, Mr. John Sanderson, an old shaft has been cleared out to the depth of 90 feet, and a good deal of tunnelling run without getting off the rim rock, but from the prospects obtained while running along the rim rock, there can be little doubt that this claim will prove better than any other exceedingly valuable property.

The North Star claim has above the Last Chance. For the last three seasons a tunnel has been run on this claim, which ought soon to strike bed rock, the discovery of which will be greatly to develop the upper portion of the creek. All these placer propositions will turn out good properties under proper handling.

FRENCH CREEK
runs into Goldstream four miles above McCullough creek. In the early days there was considerable money made on this creek, and a small town and mill were built for the transportation of the miners. During the last four or five years the Canadian claimants have proved a very rich property in the hands of working men, and has turned out profitably to the shareholders, being worked economically and in a workmanlike manner by means of a shaft driven by a local steam engine. The shaft claim, the Gold Hill, paid very well for one or two seasons as a working claim. It has been sold to a "hedge" syndicate, who have shipped machinery to work it as a hydraulic proposition. From the prospects obtained by drifting, the claim should prove a very valuable property. The indications already

WEST KOOTENAY'S RISE

Due to the Enterprise of the American Miner, Who Got Tired of \$2000 in Montana.

BY CLIVE PHILLIPS-WOLLEY.

The patience of a true British Columbia is the most pathetic thing in the West. Look for him and for the country, that irrepressible person the American mining man, came along and disturbed the ancient settler's repose. It seemed to the American not a bad thing to get in and do some work.

And in this brief is the true story (however unpalatable) of British Columbia's recent development. We sat on our treasure taking occasionally in the dreams of "great possibilities" until the shrewd Yankee tumbled over us and woke us up.

Sometime at the beginning of the century, men, and especially Hudson Bay men, knew of the existence of a great deposit of lead, galena, and silver, upon Kootenay lake, known as the Blue Bell mine. This great mine (now the property of the Pilot Bay Smelting Company), for many years provided lead for a few "gappers" of the same class was ever less or worse advertised than West Kootenay.

MINING SHARES

In the purchase of mining shares there are two things to be considered: Are they promoters shares or are they treasury? And no one should purchase a single share of stock unless this distinction is clearly made and clearly understood.

Promoter's shares are that proportion of the total number of shares taken by the promoter or others who organized and float the company, and whatever money these shares sell for goes into the pocket of the promoter, after paying for the mine. There is no obligation attending the sale of promoter's shares, by \$25 of one, producing \$1000 of the company, and whatever money these shares sell for goes into the pocket of the promoter, after paying for the mine. There is no obligation attending the sale of promoter's shares, by \$25 of one, producing \$1000 of the company, and whatever money these shares sell for goes into the pocket of the promoter, after paying for the mine.

In view of the fact that most companies make a pool or contract, whereby none of the promoter's shares will be offered on the market for a specified time, the promoter's shares, at a higher price, and do not fluctuate, but are sold for the price of the shares on the market, the price of all the shares fall and the promoter's shares are sold for the price of the shares on the market, the price of all the shares fall and the promoter's shares are sold for the price of the shares on the market.

CLAIMS—PROSPECTS MINES

Many persons are perplexed when invited to visit a so-called mine, to see whether a deep hole penetrating a hill or a well-like shaft entering the ground, and sometimes they see only a "claim" or "prospect" of a mine. A "claim" is a piece of land, level, hilly, or both, on which some person, known as a prospector, has found indications of mineral, and which he claims as his own, because of his discovery.

A "prospect" has either a hole cut horizontally into a hill or mountain or sunk perpendicular into the ground, and varies from six feet deep to 30 or 40 feet, or more, and is supposed to be deep enough to have reached the mineral bearing rock. This mineral rock, or ore, or vein, as the case may be, is a prospect, because it may lead to riches, and prospectively will do so.

A "mine" has either a tunnel or a shaft, which has gone in the earth far enough to not only find the mineral bearing rock, but has also reached it and discovered—by drifts and shafts—a sufficient body of ore of value, to warrant the belief that its shipment and reduction will pay for the expense.

SILVER VS. GOLD

Professor Carlyle on the Prospects of Silver Mines.

In his excellent report on the Silver Prof. A. W. Carlyle, Provincial Mineralogist, says: "For some time back there has existed a strong antipathy to silver properties, and foreign investors especially have refused to entertain any proposition that was not on a gold basis, but now the fact is being realized that with silver even at its greatly reduced value, if there is a sufficient number of ounces of this white metal in the ore, a silver or silver-lead mine is quite as profitable and as desirable as a gold mine, and the handsome returns from the very high grade ore being mined in Shewan, Nelson and Alton, are attracting increasing attention, as is testified by the numbers now seeking silver properties and the transactions recorded, of the same class was ever less or worse advertised than West Kootenay.

The Hudson branch of the Columbia & Western railway is expected to be running by June 1. Work is being steadily pushed on it.

One closely resembling that of Bull Creek has recently been found at miles from Coeur d'Alene City on the lake. Assay, \$25 in gold.

When Going to

West Kootenay

Stop at the

lake View

Hotel

J.J. Foley, Propr.

Arrowhead.

A First Class House

Up to Date

Accommodation

A Large Addition

Just Building

Rates \$1 to \$2 a Day

T. W. GRAHAM, Proprietor

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Hotel Lardeau

Comaplix, B.C.

Headquarters for the Fish Creek District

A first class hotel situated at the mouth of Fish Creek, head of the East Arm of Arrow Lake.

Magee & Green

Proprietors

Prospectors Exchange

Thomson's Landing

Head of the North East Arm of Arrow Lake on the Direct Route to the Trout Lake and Lardner Districts

Prospectors Exchange is the headquarters for mining men and prospectors in the district.

Reasonable rates—bar—high addition going up to accommodate the travelling public.

Stage line running daily to Fernston and Trout Lake City.

T. W. GRAHAM, Proprietor

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